PRESIDENT: You have been putting a series of questions and the final answer of the Chief Engineer is that there is no ferry now. Then you put a hyphothetical question—suppose there is a ferry, will Government do so and so?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Vedumangad*): Sir, I have asked whether the Government undertake the responsibility for the answer that there is no ferry now. I undertake, on the other hand, the responsibiiity of satisfying the Government that there is a ferry there now.

PRESIDENT: Well, the Chief Engineer to Government has given the definite answer that there is no ferry-

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Sir, what I meant was that there is no P. W. D. ferry at the crossing there may be a ferry maintained by others.

The Mulakulam Bridge.

34 ***MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how long it is since the Mulakulam Bridge on the Piravam-Peruvai road has been washed away by floods;

(*b*) whether an estimate has been called for to put up a new bridge there; and

(*c*) whether they are aware of the difficulties in crossing the canal during floods?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) About three years.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. T. K. VELAPPAN NAIR (*Vaikom*): With reference to the answer to part (*b*), may I know from the member the estimated cost of the new bridge?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Rs. 10,200.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR (*Vaikom*): May I know from the member the remedy proposed for surmounting the difficulties in crossing the canal during floods?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): An estimate for a bridge has been submitted to Government for sanction.

Irrigation works in the Shencotta taluk.

35 ***MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR** (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether all the irrigation works in the Shencotta taluk have been placed under the control of the Irrigation Engineer; and

(*b*) if some works have not been placed under his control, the reasons for the same?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) None.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

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MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Sir, may I ask whether, some time after the formation of the Irrigation Division, Government ordered that the irrigation works in Shencotta taluk should be placed under the control of the P.W.D?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): For the P. W. D. Irrigation works, yes.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the Government order was given effect to at least in part?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Yes.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I ask why it was not given effect to in full?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): So far as it concerns the P. W. D., the order was that the Irrigation Divisional Officer should take over the irrigation works in Shencotta.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I ask, Sir, why the answer to part (*a*) is that no works were transferred to the control of the Irrigation Engineer?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): They were transferred, but were taken back again. We tried it as an experiment, but neither the Divisional Irrigation Officer nor the Quilon Divisional Officer considered that it was working satisfactorily.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know how long it was tried?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): For about six months.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the trial for a period of six months is enough to justify it.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads Buildings, and Irrigation*): Yes, the Government considered it so.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is that the case with the P. W. D. in regard to the other irrigation works in other taluks?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It was considered that, in regard to Shencotta, it would be better done by the Section Officer there.

Drainage Scheme.

36 *MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether an expert in Drainage Engineering was invited to investigate the drainage scheme for Trivandrum and, if so, what has become of the arrangement?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes; but the roposal to engage any outside agency has since been dropped.

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